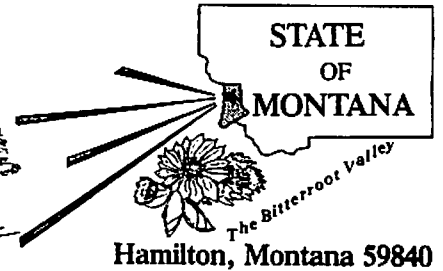


COUNTY OF RAVALLI



Ravalli County Commissioners
215 S. 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, MT. 59840
406-375-6500

February 28, 2007

Jim Lynch, Director
Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT. 59620

RE: Letter of Support for Slide Correction – North of Conner

Dear Mr. Lynch;

Please allow this letter to serve as our support for the Slide Correction – North of Conner on Secondary 473 under the Public Lands Highways Discretionary (PLHD) Program.

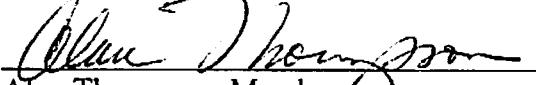
PLHD support will assist the Montana Department of Transportation in the repair and re-surfacing of a one-half mile section of Secondary Road No.473 due to channel migration of the West Fork of the Bitterroot River. Currently a portion of the road is closed to public travel. The project would reopen the roadway providing adequate access to the southern portion of the Bitterroot National Forest which include popular attractions such as Painted Rocks Lake, the Selway Bitterroot Wilderness, the West Fork of the Bitterroot River, and the Alta USFS campground and Alta Ranger Station. These areas provide numerous recreational opportunities such as camping, fishing, boating, day hiking and rock climbing. The project would also reestablish direct access to several private homes and ranches which is certainly important to those Ravalli County residents.

If we can be of further assistance please feel free to contact us at the above number.

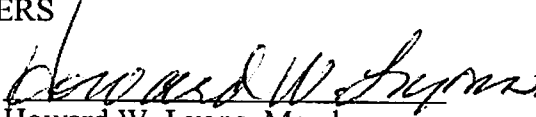
Sincerely,
BOARD OF RAVALLI COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Greg Chilcott, Chairman



Alan Thompson, Member



Howard W. Lyons, Member